

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING  
R.E.A.D.E.R.L.E.A.D.E.R.S.  
COUPLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

THE  
OF

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 20, 2011*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of students from Cople Elementary School in Westmoreland County, Virginia. The "R.E.A.D.E.R.L.E.A.D.E.R.S." took part in the Community Problem Solving contest of the Future Problem Solving Program International competition, which involves students using problem-solving skills to tackle an important issue in their community. The team from Cople chose to promote youth reading, a goal highlighted in their name, which stands for, "Reading Each And every Day and Educating others to Read and become Lifelong readers so Every Cople student is Able to Dream, imagine, love, and Experience how Reading can be Super fun." Among other endeavors, the members of the R.E.A.D.E.R.L.E.A.D.E.R.S. sponsored book fairs, read to fellow students, promoted book giveaways, and even composed a resolution urging that March be named "Young Reader's Month" by the Westmoreland County School Board.

The group's hard work paid off, with their efforts culminating in First Place awards in the Junior Division at both the state and national levels. The students represented America's First District with the highest degree of dedication and perseverance, exhibiting skills of reasoning and team work that will certainly serve them well in the future. At the same time, I am impressed with the devotion these students have shown for serving their community. I am proud of the R.E.A.D.E.R.L.E.A.D.E.R.S. of Cople Elementary School, and I commend them on their impressive achievements.

SPEAKER WILLIAM O'BRIEN CELEBRATES HIS 60TH BIRTHDAY  
WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

**HON. FRANK C. GUINTA**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 20, 2011*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, on July 20, 2011 Speaker William O'Brien will celebrate his 60th birthday with family and friends. Speaker O'Brien is a principled and selfless public servant having served our nation, state, and local communities in various capacities for many years.

Known as a principled, honest, and forthright man, Speaker William O'Brien's public service includes serving as a past member of the Mont Vernon School Board, past member

of the Mont Vernon Police Advisory Commission, three terms as a member of the New Hampshire House of Representatives, and Speaker of the New Hampshire House in 2011.

Known as a fiscal conservative, under Speaker William O'Brien's leadership, the New Hampshire legislature passed a fiscally responsible budget reducing spending by over \$1.2 billion, enacted 43 laws to reduce burdensome regulations on employers allowing more flexibility and opportunity to grow and create jobs, and passing a state budget that restores fiscal discipline while including no new or increased taxes and fees.

Speaker O'Brien is a long-standing advocate and leader of conservative values and principles. He has served in numerous conservative leadership capacities including Chairman of the New Hampshire Republican Party Platform Committee, Vice-Chair of the Granite State Taxpayers, and Co-Chair of the House Republican Alliance.

However, Speaker O'Brien's greatest joy and accomplishment is as a loving husband of thirty-seven years, father of three children, and three grandchildren. This is a great day for Speaker O'Brien, his wife Roxanne, and his family and friends. I wish him the very best on his 60th birthday. This is truly a very joyous occasion.

IN MEMORY OF PETE MOLLIKA

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 20, 2011*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Pete Mollica, a fixture of Niles and the Mahoning Valley, who passed away on July 14th. Pete fought a long, hard battle with cancer, and the loss of his voice in our community is a void that will be impossible to fill.

A graduate of Niles McKinley High School, Pete was himself an athlete, competing on the football and baseball fields. Sports was in his blood, whether it be as a player, coach or official. Fortunately for the people of Northeast Ohio, he made his love of competition a career as a sports writer.

He leaves behind his high school sweetheart, Bonnie, two children, and six grandchildren. They will continue his legacy of kindness, generosity and optimism, but no one can ever fully replace what he brought to our community.

As a Valley athlete, I grew up reading Pete's writing. He covered it all with heart—high school, college, football, golf, softball, you name it. His uplifting stories of competition and athleticism helped inspire local children and adults alike.

Being named in one of Pete's columns was a badge of honor; you could be certain

friends, family, and the community would take notice. And therein was Pete's true gift, his understanding of how sports bring communities together. Through his craft, for just a moment, we could forget about our differences and embrace our shared excitement and appreciation of sports.

RECOGNIZING THE EDWARDS FAMILY AS THE 2011 SANTA ROSA COUNTY OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 20, 2011*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure for me to rise today to recognize the Edwards family for being selected as the 2011 Santa Rosa County Outstanding Farm Family of the Year.

Alan Edwards is a fifth generation farmer whose love for farming came at an early age. At fourteen, he bought his first cotton picker. Since then, he has never lost sight of the value of hard work and good soil and continues to instill those values in his family today. He and his wife Michele, along with their three daughters, Shelby, Madison, and Brianna, sow and harvest 750 acres of cotton, peanuts, soybeans, hay and wheat, and raise beef cattle.

The Edwards family, like all farm families, knows too well that taking care of a farm while raising a family is a full-time job. However, Alan and Michele remain very involved with their community. Michele works for the Century Correctional Institution, and Alan serves on numerous agricultural organizations, including the Santa Rosa County Farm Bureau, Florida Farm Bureau Peanut/Cotton Advisory Board, the Santa Rosa County Extension Advisory Committee, the West Florida Research and Education Center Advisory Committee, and the Florida Peanut Producers Association. This past year he was appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture to represent Florida on the USDA Cotton Board, the oversight and administrative arm of the Cotton Research & Promotion Program. He was also selected as one of two Florida growers to participate in the Peanut Leadership Academy. Among other community activities, Alan has served area schools through his involvement with the Future Farmers of America.

Mr. Speaker, our great nation was built by farmers and their families. The Santa Rosa County Outstanding Farm Family of the Year award is a reflection of the Edwards family's tireless work and dedication to family, faith and trade. On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my congratulations to the Edwards family for this great accomplishment. My wife Vicki and I wish them best wishes for continued success.

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.